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Strasse 50, 65929 Frankfurt (DE). **FLODGAARD, Hans**
[DK/DK]; Melvillevej 6, DK-2900 Hellerup (DK).

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(74) Agents: **ROQUES, Sarah, Elizabeth et al.**; J.A. Kemp &
Co., 14 South Square, Gray's Inn, London WC1R 5JJ (GB).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **HANSA
MEDICAL RESEARCH AB** [SE/SE]; Edison Park,
S-223 69 Lund (SE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BJÖRCK, Lars**
[SE/SE]; Magle Stora Kyrkogata 10, S-223 50 Lund (SE).
HERWALD, Heiko [DE/SE]; Kyrkogatan 8, S-24014
Veberöd (SE). **MÖRGELIN, Matthias** [SE/SE]; Tre Hö-
gars Väg 26B, S-224 75 Lund (SE). **RUSSELL, Wayne**
[GB/SE]; Hallandsgatan 7, S-224 32 Kävlinge (SE).
NORRBY-TEGLUND, Anna [SE/SE]; Gustavslundsvä-
gen 19, S-144 63 Rönninge (SE). **LINDBOM, Lennart**
[SE/SE]; Department of Physiology and Pharmacology,
Karolinska Institutet, S-171 77 Stockholm (SE). **SOL-
LENBERG, Ulla** [SE/SE]; Department of Physiology and
Pharmacology, Karolinska Institutet, S-171 77 Stockholm
(SE). **CRAMER, Henning** [DE/DE]; Ludwigshafener

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(54) Title: METHOD AND TREATMENT

(57) Abstract: A method for identifying an anti-streptococcal agent, comprises: (a) providing, as a first component, an isolated streptococcal M protein or a functional variant thereof; (b) providing, as a second component, isolated fibrinogen or a functional variant thereof; (c) providing, as a third component, an isolated β_2 integrin or a functional variant thereof; (d) contacting said components with a test substance under conditions that would permit the components to interact in the absence of the test substance; and (e) determining whether the test substance inhibits the interaction between the components; thereby to determine whether a test substance is an anti-streptococcal agent.

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